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STATE LEGISLATURE, MADRAS

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, 27th September 1956.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at nine of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI N. GOPALA MENON) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Outbreak of cattle disease on Thavitiseri and Eramam Desams

* 5 (SHORT NOTICE) *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many cattle died in Thavitiseri Desam and in Eramam in Payyanur Firka, North Malabar, during the last four months on account of cattle disease; and

(*b*) the preventive measures taken by the Government in this connexion?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: (*a*) The number of cattle that died during the last 4 months in Thavitiseri was 16 and that in Eramam North was 10.

(*b*) The disease was got investigated by the Veterinary Disease Investigation Officer (Cattle), Ranipet and it was found that the death of animals was not due to any contagious disease but only due to malnutrition, mineral deficiency, etc. However, as a precautionay measure the animals in the area have been got protected, 110 animals inoculated against Black quarter and 140 against Haemorrhagic Septicaemia. There have been no further reports of deaths

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

SRI K. P. GOPALAN: Are the Government aware that in spite of the preventive measures taken by the Government, even now many cattle are losing their lives daily. Also, are they aware that even the veterinary doctors are not able to find out the real cause of the disease. So will the Government be pleased to conduct an investigation by experts and take steps to prevent the death of the cattle further?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Sir, it has been found that the deaths have not been due to any common contagious disease like Rinderpest, Black quarter, etc. Certain biological tests have also been conducted with the materials that are available. I may assure the hon. Member that the Department has been taking all necessary steps to prevent the spread of the disease further.